1	2
4.	Eco-fragile/Eco-sensitive Zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries
5.	Revision of Species in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
6.	Guidelines for permission for scientific research in Protected Areas.
7.	Rationalization of the boundaries of National Parks and Sanctuaries
8.	Nominations of members to the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife on a rotational basis
9.	Decline in Tiger Population in India as reported in media
10.	Problems of Wildlife related to drying of wetlands
11.	Abolition of the practice of gifting animals by Head of the Government/ Head of the State
12.	Expedite the setting up of National Wildlife Crime Bureau in view of actions by CITES
13.	Creation of separate Department of Forests & Wildlife

Drive for Afforestation

† 3931. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to launch any drive for afforestation and to check the shrinking percentage of forest cover;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what efforts are being made to entrust the work of plantation of trees to the Panchayati Raj institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has launched the National Afforestation Programme for undertaking afforestation activities through a two-tier

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

institutional set-up of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the forest division level, and Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) at the village level. The Ministry has also issued guidelines dated 1.6.1990,21.2.2000, and 24.12.2002 to involve local village communities in the regeneration of degraded forests on usufruct sharing basis.

(c) Afforestation by Panchayats is a permissible activity under the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana and National Food for Work Programme of the Ministry of Rural Development. As per information received from Ministry of Panchayati Raj, many State Governments have entrusted the item of social forestry to Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Mumbai Trans Harbour Sea Link Project

3932. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra have submitted complete information regarding environmental aspects of Mumbai Trans Harbour sea link project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, Government propose to approve the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Government has accorded environmental clearance for Mumbai Trans Harbour Sea Link Project on 11.3.2005.

Total forest cover area in Orissa

3933. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total forest covered area in the State of Orissa and out of this area of dense forest, open forest and scrub forest;

(b) the funds allocated for the standardization of nursery and establishment technique of medicinal plants;